



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

dispense with the professional politician is to dispense with the service he performs. Reduce the number of elective officials." Reforms which merely alter the conditions under which power is gained possess no true remedial value. The system of direct primaries will fail to promote democratic control. "It may well be that this device will in the long run, merely emphasize the evil which it is intended to abate. It will tend to perpetuate the power of the professional politician by making his services still more necessary."

But whatever improvement may be made in state authority, the author does not think it can become the main agency of democratic government. "The control of the central government over commerce and the corporations should consequently be substituted for the control of the states rather than added thereto." Income and inheritance taxation should be exclusively a national function, but a certain proportion of the net receipts could be distributed among the states." The author argues that the curtailment of state function would invigorate it within the field left to it, although about the only sources of revenue that would be left to the state would be "the real estate tax and saloon licenses."

A sketch of the argument can not do justice to its sweep and cogency. Although in some respects the work leaves the impression that its philosophy has not been fully extracted, it is characterized by perception of political reality and practical knowledge of conditions. From the traditional American standpoint its views will appear extremely radical, not to say revolutionary, but a Swiss or an Australian or a New Zealand voter would hardly find them novel or at all startling. Herein lies the chief significance of the work. It is an indication that the democratic spirit in this country is beginning to work out of its old eddy to join the main current now flowing strong throughout the modern world.

HENRY JONES FORD.

The Transitional Period, 1788-1789, in the Government of the United States. By FRANK FLETCHER STEPHENS. (University of Missouri Studies, Vol. II, No. 4; 1909. Pp. viii, 126.)

The years 1788-1789, which Dr. Stephens has well termed the "Transitional Period," never have been adequately treated hitherto in standard historical and political works. These latter are occupied mainly with the story of the adoption of the Constitution by the several states

during 1787-1788, and the launching of the new government on March 4, 1789. The monograph now under consideration gives an intensive study of important events that transpired during this period, and treats of such topics as the process of electing United States senators, representatives and presidential electors, and the necessary adjustment of federal and state relations. It is based upon public documents, newspapers and correspondence and shows a careful and accurate handling of the material involved. Its content is, in brief, as follows:

The newly-adopted Constitution did not provide in detail the methods to be used in the choice of the members of the two houses of Congress, but allowed a wide latitude to the states for individual desire or interpretation. In many of the states the legislative bodies were in the habit of electing officials by a vote of the two houses in joint session. As a result of this custom most of the United States senators were elected by that method. Some people argued for an election by concurrent action of the two houses holding that the legislature must act as usual in law making, that is, the Senate and House should "act by and have a negative upon each other" (p. 25). Although the question was complicated in several instances by questions of local party politics, only three states adopted the concurrent method—New Hampshire, Massachusetts and New York. Pennsylvania and Georgia had only one house of legislature, hence the matter was a very simple one for them.

Four states (Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New Hampshire and Connecticut) elected their representatives by general ticket, and Maryland and Georgia added the further requirement that one representative should come from each of the prescribed districts. New York and South Carolina allowed the voters of each district to choose one representative, who might come from the state at large, while Massachusetts, Virginia and North Carolina adopted the district system as in use to-day. Delaware and Rhode Island had only one representative each who necessarily represented the entire state. A majority vote to elect was required in New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

As regards the choice of presidential electors, Dr. Stephens states that in "four states the choice was made entirely by the qualified voters, in three by the legislatures, in two by the voters indirectly, and in one by the governor and council" (p. 83). There were seventy-three electors chosen by the ten states that took part in the first election, and of these, seventy may be classed as friendly to the new Constitution. The three Anti-Federalists from Virginia of course voted for Washington for president but cast their votes for George Clinton of New York for vice president.

Finally, three courses were open to the states in the adjustment of their relations with the national government. They might "take no action whatever . . . in which case their . . . laws would become obsolete through the precedence of the Federal Constitution and laws; they might omit [various laws] . . . in the re-codification of state laws or in the revised state constitutions, which omission would amount to a repeal; or they might specifically repeal parts or all of their . . . laws" (p. 98). Each course was followed by about an equal number of states.

WILLIAM STARR MYERS.

The Social Evil in New York City. A Study of Law Enforcement by the Research Committee of the Committee of Fourteen. (New York: Andrew H. Kellogg. Pp. xxxvi, 268.)

The Committee of Fourteen was organized in 1905 for the suppression of Raine's law hotels in the city of New York. The present investigation is directed to twenty-eight topics including prostitution in tenements, dance halls, the cadet system, seduction, immoral exhibitions, midwifery and abortion, employment agencies, etc. Its plan is to state (1) the provisions of law bearing on each topic; (2) the conditions preceding and leading up to the passage of these laws; (3) the degree to which they have been subsequently enforced, as shown by official records; (4) a field study of the effects following from the laws; (5) a summary of the influences, civic or political, tending to promote or defeat their success.

It is made clear that in addition to the relatively constant element of vice due to human frailty and imperfection of social development, there is a great amount of vice which is due to the active promotion of the business of prostitution. Many of the women who are in houses of prostitution are there because they have been forced, ensnared, or enticed by men who derive profit from their corruption. And many of the men who visit prostitutes do so because of insidious appeals to their lust, including active and extensive advertising and solicitation. The laws, for the most part, fail to reach the responsible partners in the business; and there are many who directly or indirectly derive profits from it.

Frequent additions are made to the long and heterogeneous list of enactments which quiet the public mind with the belief that protection has been afforded, when the lack of intelligence concerning related legis-